



U.S. Department of Justice

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District of New Hampshire*

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CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE: United States Attorney Tom Colantuono announced that Richard Valverde, a/k/a Jesus Santos-Carabello age 28, of Lawrence, Massachusetts, was sentenced today on charges of distribution of cocaine in violation of Title 21 United States Code Section 841(a). According to the indictment, Valverde distributed cocaine and cocaine base (crack) in Manchester, New Hampshire on three occasions between January 28, and February 4, 2002. He was arrested in Manchester on February 12, during an attempt to distribute additional cocaine to an undercover agent. Valverde was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Joseph A. DeClerico to a term of seventy (70) months in prison and four years probation.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono stated: "This case represents another example of sound inter-agency cooperation to stop the flow of illegal drugs into New Hampshire and this office will continue to work vigorously toward that goal."

The case was jointly investigated by the New Hampshire Drug Enforcement Administration HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area) unit, the Manchester Police Department, the New Hampshire Attorney General's Drug Task Force, and the New Hampshire State Police Narcotics Investigation Unit. Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert J. Veiga prosecuted this case.